



97086/00049

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
HERBERT WALTER et al.

Serial No. 10/505,389

Confirmation No. 7213

Filed: August 20, 2004

For: PROFILED RAIL AND ACCESSORIES
USED AS A SUSPENSION DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 2831

Examiner: Jinhee J. Lee

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicants and their attorney respectfully request that the following patents and patent publications be made of record in the official United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the above-identified patent application. The citation of the following patents and patent publications should not be construed as an admission that they constitute statutory prior art with respect to the present invention. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, copies of the foreign patent publications are enclosed.

U.S. Patent Nos.

3,753,209*
4,812,134*
4,817,538
5,485,933
6,631,813

08/30/2005 MBERHE 00000031 503571 10505389
01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

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Foreign Patent Publications

U.K. Patent Publication No. GB 2 224 923 A
European Patent No. EP 0 007 071 A1*
German Gebrauchsmuster No. DE 299 03 019
International Patent Publication No. WO 01/43599 A1*

Of the patents and patent publications listed above, U.K. Patent Publication No. GB 2 224 923 A is discussed on page 1 of the present application. Moreover, the above-listed patents and patent publications that are designated with an asterisk ("*") were cited in an International Search Report issued in connection with applicants' corresponding international patent application (i.e., International Patent Application No. PCT/CH03/00139). Attached hereto is a copy of the International Search Report which provides an indication as to the relevance of these references perceived by the European Patent Office.

With respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,631,813, applicants' attorney notes that it corresponds to International Patent Application No. PCT/CH00/00618, which is owned by the assignee of the present application. International Patent Publication No. WO 01/43599 A1, which is the publication corresponding to International Patent Application No. PCT/CH00/00618, was cited in the attached International Search Report, and is also discussed on page 2 of the present application.

Concerning the remaining patents and patent publication, applicants' attorney notes that all of them were listed on the face of U.S. Patent 6,631,813. The United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to U.S. Patent No. 6,631,813 contains an indication concerning the relevance of these patents and patent publication.

In view of the foregoing, additional comments concerning the relevance of the patents and publications listed above are considered unnecessary. If the Examiner wishes to receive English-language translations of the foreign language patent publications cited above, applicants' attorney stands ready to do so.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and patent publications listed on the previous pages, applicants' attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO/SB/08A. The completed form is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

It is noted that this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits for the present application. Thus, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 503571. If any other fees are due as a result of the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 503571.

Respectfully submitted,

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